

CHATHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
58 Meyersville Rd., Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600

MINUTES OF CTEC MEETING

Tuesday January 11, 2005 7:45 PM at the Township Municipal Building.

CTEC'S PURPOSE (NJ40:56A, 1968): to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2004 was published in the Chatham Courier & Daily Record newspapers and posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings and participate in projects.

ROLL CALL

Attending were CTEC members D. Bibona, D. Stillinger, K. Abbott, K. Tubbs, S. Hoag. Also present were Watershed Ambassador Carolyn Waugh and Tree Protection Committee members Ervin Hoag and Parker Godwin.

REORGANIZATION

Dot Stillinger was voted Chair and Kevin Tubbs was voted Vice-Chair. Susan Hoag was voted liaison to the Open Space Committee. Lou Caprioglio will continue as Planning Board Liaison.

MINUTES were not available for Nov. 8, 2004 and will be approved next time. Minutes from Dec. 13, 2004 were approved.

DATES for CTEC meetings for 2005 and Jan. 2006 were approved as follows:

Tues., January 11, 2005, Monday, February 14, 2005, Monday, March 14, 2005, Monday, April 11, 2005, Monday, May 9, 2005, Monday, June 13, 2005, July 2005 -- no meeting, Monday, August 8, 2005, Monday, September 12, 2005, Tuesday, October 18, 2005, Monday, November 14, 2005, Monday, December 12, 2005, Monday, January 9, 2006.

REMARKS

. GRATEFUL THANKS TO ABBIE FAIR, JAYNE MORANO, AND KATHLEEN ANTHONY, who are leaving the Commission.

. Welcome new members Sue Hoag (Reg., 2006) and Nicole Hagner (Township Committee liaison) and congratulations to Kathy Abbott (Reg., 2007) and David Bibona (Reg., 2007) on their reappointment to CTEC.

. Congratulations to David Bibona on having been accepted at the Yale Business School!

. The letter to the Township Committee recommending regulations regarding demolitions has been received by the Committee.

. ESRI has donated a free copy of ArcView to CTEC for the fourth year in a row. Any CTEC member is invited to make use of the CTEC copy of ArcView. ESRI has said they would welcome an article by CTEC for one of their publications.

EVENTS

. April 2, 2005 NJEF conference. Kathy Abbott and Lydia Chambers will receive an award for their work on pesticide reduction. All CTEC members are urged to attend.

ACTIONS

. Passed a resolution of appreciation for all the extraordinary services CTEC Secretary Kathleen Anthony has provided to CTEC over the past three years.

Kathleen is leaving CTEC to resume her nursing career and is currently working toward adding a NJ license to her present NY license.

. Approved the CTEC 2005 budget. It has been favorably reviewed by Township Administrator Tom Ciccarone.

. Approved the addition of an electronics recycling event to the approved list of CTEC projects for 2005.

There are funds available from DEP grants (Clean Communities, Recycling Tonnage).

The Township has been receiving a steady stream of requests for another such event.

Teri Hough of the Board of Adjustment has agreed to spearhead it again. Projects previously approved for 2005 by the Projects Subcommittee are:

Draft a pesticide ordinance, do a cleanup project, conduct a pilot project of conservation easement baseline data collection, arrange an educational event, update the Natural Resources Inventory as an on-going project.

. Proposed new NJDEP regulations for habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species will be considered again next time. No recommendation.

. Spring cleanup. Date should be April 16 to coincide with Chatham Borough's cleanup event. Potential sites for spring cleanup event were discussed, including the Township-owned former Boy Scout camp on Fairmount Ave.

Possibility of doing a Weed-Out suggested by C.

Waugh. Pyramid Mtn. did one under leadership of the League of Women Voters. CTEC might want to consider creating a brochure about invasive species. If there is no conservation easement data collection walk on Jan. 29 people might want to walk the Boy Scout tract.

The USF&W has an invasive species booklet, "Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas." Also visit the web site of the "Heritage Conservancy."

. Recycling. K. Abbott suggested CTEC should play a role in Christmas tree recycling. Paul Miele of Chatham Disposal picks up Christmas trees as a free service to the town.

. More on recycling. CTEC agreed to send K. Abbott's letter to the school principals urging them to continue recycling efforts in schools.

. New NRI map. CTEC voted to add Chatham Township GIS Intern Michael Malloy's map titled "Slopes", which includes 5-foot contours as well as slopes in percent, to the Natural Resources Inventory.

. Letter concerning issues around house demolitions was sent to the Township Committee and has been received by them. CTEC will discuss and follow up at the next CTEC meeting.

. The Conservation Plan Element was approved in concept by the Planning Board on Dec. 20, 2004 and will be discussed further on Mon. Jan. 10, 2005 with a view towards scheduling a public hearing.

. Tree protection ordinance. Mayor O'Connor has requested that CTEC reexamine the current tree protection ordinance to see if it can be made more protective of the community forest while simplifying tree maintenance and removal procedures for residents.

Discussion took place concerning revisions to the ordinance. More discussion will be held at the next CTEC meeting in Feb.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:45 PM.

dks 2-9-05